

Why is writing important?

Teaching children at a young age to write improves their reading skills by helping them recognize the connection between the letters they see and the sounds the letter make.

Children gain knowledge of and interest in writing as they are continually exposed to print and writing in their environment.

Library! at Main

715 S. Capitol Blvd | Boise, ID 83702 | (208) 972-8200
Mon-Thurs 10-9, Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5

Library! at Bown Crossing

2153 East Riverwalk Dr. | Boise, ID 83706 | (208) 972-8360

Mon-Thurs 10-9, Fri 10-6, Sat 12-5, Sun 1-5

Library! at Cole and Ustick

7557 W Ustick Rd. | Boise, ID 83704 | (208) 972-8300
Mon-Thurs 10-9, Fri 10-6, Sat 12-5, Sun 1-5

Library! at Collister

4724 W. State St. | Boise, ID 83703 | (208) 972-8320
Mon-Thurs 10-9, Fri 10-6, Sat 12-5, Sun 1-5

Library! at Hillcrest

5246 W. Overland Rd. | Boise, ID 83705 | (208) 972-8324
Mon-Thurs 10-9, Fri 10-6, Sat 12-5, Sun 1-5



Boise Public
Library



Find us at [boisepublib](https://boisepublib.org)

Kindergarten Lions

Library!



Writing Activities

Looking for a good book to read?

Picture Books About Writing

- *Rocket Writes a Story* by Tad Hills
- *A Perfectly messed-Up Story* by Patrick McDonnell
- *Amy the Red Panda is Writing the Best Story in the World* by Colleen Venable
- *The Whisper* by Pamela Zagarenski
- *The Idea Jar* by Adam Lehraup

Beginning to Read Easy Readers

- *There is a Bird on Your Head* by Mo Willems
- *Goose on the Loose* by Phil Roxbee Cox
- *Biscuit Flies a Kite* by Alyssa Capucilli
- *Cat Got a Lot* by Steve Hengry
- *Big Dog and Little Dog* by Dav Pilkey

Bob Books

- Check out our collection of Bob Books. These book collections contain about 10 books to learn sight words and letter sounds.

Tumblebooks

- eBooks for children to read, listen, and watch animated talking picture books.
- Read-along feature to help strengthen reading skills.
- Games and interactive activities to help strengthen comprehension skills.

During a car ride, ask your child to point out all the places they see letters outside the car.

Make your own mailbox so family members can "send" each other notes. You can make your mailboxes out of an empty cereal box and crayons.

Turn on some music on your phone or a stereo. Give your child some paper and coloring materials and tell them to draw until the music stops. Stop the music, and remind your child to stop drawing. Repeat, changing up the style and tempo of the music as you go!

Cover a cookie tray with shaving cream and let your child practice their letters (or any kind of scribbling).

With your child, use your bodies to form shapes and letters. See if you can guess what shape/letter they are forming. Talk about which letters require you to work together, and which can be formed alone.

Additional Resources

Recipe for Playdough

Ingredients:

- 1 cup flour
- 1/4 cup salt
- 1/2 cup water
- 3-5 drops of food coloring (optional)

Directions:

- Mix flour and salt together.
- Mix water and food coloring together.
- Slowly pour the water mixture into the flour and stir until well combined, kneading with your hands if necessary.
- If the dough is sticky add more flour.



Help your child write a letter to a family member or friend in another town.



Get out a piece of paper and a variety of drawing materials. At the top of the piece of paper, write "Today at school I will..." or "Today at home, I will..." Ask your child to finish the sentence with a drawing of something that will happen that day in school or at home. You can write your child's description of the drawing at the bottom of the page.



Check out a book on shapes from the library. Talk with your child about what letters are similar to what shapes.



Have your child design their dream house. Label the different parts of the house as they draw.



Help your child "write" a story. Have them draw their story, and you write in the words to accompany the pictures.



Play a game of *I Spy* using letters and their sounds. Example: "I spy something that starts with the letter D."



Use masking tape to draw a giant letter on the floor. Talk with your child about the name of the letter and a word that begins with that letter. Have your child hop or walk along the shape of the letter. Help your child think of other words that begin with that letter. Repeat with other letters!



Have your child help write out the grocery list for the week.



Make a word book for your child. Let your child cut out pictures from magazines or the newspaper. Glue them in folded paper and label them for your child.



Trace letters onto your child's back. Have them guess which letter you're drawing. Have them trace on your back. Build up to writing whole words!



Have your child use pipe cleaners to form the letters in their name. What other words can you spell?



Do the Hokey Pokey! It's fun, but also helps your child learn directions, which they will need to write letters facing the correct way.



Draw several letters on a piece of paper (making sure they are at least 5-6 inches tall). Have your child roll playdough into long snakes. Form the snakes into the shapes of the letters, either directly on top of the printed letters, or underneath them.



Set up a "writing station" for your child, with paper and a variety of writing tools. Having writing materials readily available at all times is the best way to ensure your child will become proficient.



Have your child draw labels for things around the house (art supplies, toys, etc.) and then write out what the label is.